

WEST GOSHEN SEWER AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
April 1, 2020
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the West Goshen Sewer Authority was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 as a Teleconference due to the Emergency Declaration and Order of the PA Governor to “stay at home” that prevented an in-person Public Meeting. Those participating in the conference call were:

Authority

Theodore Murphy
Tina Smith
Walt Wills
Phil Corvo
Shaun Walsh

UTBF

Ross Unruh

Administration

Mike Moffa
Dave Woodward
Casey Lalonde

HRG

Josh Fox

1. The regular meeting of the Authority was called to order at 7:09 PM by Chair, Ted Murphy.
2. Ted Murphy performed a roll call of the Sewer Authority and Township staff participants. Also acknowledging their attendance were the following members of the public: Dr. Doug White, Margie Swart, John Hellman & Phil Meyer.
3. The Authority meeting minutes for the regular meeting of March 4, 2020 were motioned for approval by Walt Wills. Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.
4. Ted Murphy announced:
 - a) Procedures for the teleconference were included in the agenda posted to the Township website.
 - b) There was no Executive Session held this evening.
 - c) The Audit Agreement with Barbacane Thornton & Co was signed and returned on March 23, 2020.
 - d) The Status Report for the EPA Settlement has been filed on-time with the US District Court for the Eastern District of PA.
 - e) The next regular meeting of the Authority is scheduled for May 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Location to be determined nearer the date.
5. Solicitor’s Report dated April 1, 2020 was presented by Ross Unruh.
 - a) Ross stated that the property parcel intended to be acquired by the Authority at the Downing Avenue Pump Station, which is owned by the Borough of West Chester, is now awaiting a formal vote by the Borough Council to convey the deed for the required part of the parcel directly to the WGSA. Unfortunately with the current emergency situation, it is unlikely any consideration by the Borough Council will occur before May.
 - b) Ross advised that in his opinion the minor defects noted by HRG in the bid responses for IP-2 could be waived by the Authority. 1) The reference to the original bid date instead of the actual bid date does not alter the legal effect of the bid bond. The bid bond dated 3/16/2020 is still in full legal force and effect. 2) The low bidder did not formally acknowledge the issued addendum on the bid form. However, the bidder did include each addendum in their bid package, which has the same effect of acknowledging receipt of the addendums.
6. Wastewater Superintendent Report for the month of March, 2020 was presented by Mike Moffa.
 - a) The treatment plant operated in compliance with the NPDES permit for March. Treated 147.4 million gallons of wastewater. Average of 4.75 mgpd.

Pressed for disposal 310 tons of dewatered sludge.

Average Total Phosphorous discharge concentration = 0.61 mg/L.

Mike advised that the Sewer Team is currently organized into three teams of 5 individuals, each team working every third week. The intention is to separate the staff so that if one team experiences a coronavirus case and requires quarantine, then there are two remaining teams that can continue to operate these essential facilities.

- b) Mike and Dave Woodward described the recent emergency repair to approx. 35 ft. of broken sewer pipe exposed in the small creek behind ShopRite in the West Goshen Town Centre. DiRocco performed the work and the line is fully functional again. It is believed the line is a lateral connection for the eastern part of the shopping center. It has yet to be determined if the line is the responsibility of the property owner or the Sewer Authority. Cost of the repair is unknown at this time (Time & Materials basis).

The CDC is reviewing all data on COVID-19 transmission as information becomes available. At this time, the risk of transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 through sewerage systems is thought to be low. Although transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19 through sewage may be possible, and there is no evidence to date that this has occurred. This guidance from the CDC will be updated as necessary as new evidence is assessed.

John Hellman asked several questions about the impact of the Coronavirus on the operation of the sewer system. Mike responded that the current PPE requirement of mask, goggles, gloves, boots is considered adequate to protect staff based on current recommendations from the CDC and other wastewater organizations. CDC has stated that wastewater treatment plant operations should ensure workers follow routine practices to prevent exposure to wastewater. These include using engineering and administrative controls, safe work practices, and the PPE normally required for work tasks when handling untreated wastewater. No additional COVID-19-specific protections are recommended for employees involved in wastewater management operations or facilities. The WHO bulletin on wastewater management risks for Covid-19 describes that centralized treatment processing steps with final UV disinfection (as occurs at the WG Treatment Plant) is well suited to pathogen destruction.

- 7. The Treasurers Report dated April 1, 2020 was presented by Walt Wills (See report for details)
 - a) Josh Fox, HRG, presented agenda items 7b through 7e for the Authority's consideration and possible approval.
 - b) Tina Smith motioned to approve as Requisition #435 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 15 as submitted by Garden Spot Electric in the amount of \$15,575.00 for Contract 17-6 (Anaerobic Digester Replacement Electrical Contract). Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.
 - c) Shaun Walsh motioned to approve as Requisition #436 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 16 FINAL as submitted by Garden Spot Electric in the amount of \$34,729.27 for Contract 17-6 (Anaerobic Digester Replacement Electrical Contract). Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.
 - d) Phil Corvo motioned to approve as Requisition #437 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 1 as submitted by Blooming Glen Contractors for work completed through Feb. 19th, 2020 in the amount of \$249,172.14 for Contract 19-1 (WWTP Phase 2 General Contract). Seconded by Tina Smith. Approved 5-0.
 - e) Phil Corvo motioned to approve as Requisition #438 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 2 as submitted by Blooming Glen Contractors for work completed through March 20th, 2020 in the amount of \$35,158.28 for Contract 19-1 (WWTP Phase 2 General Contract). Seconded by Walt Wills. Approved 5-0.
 - f) Walt Wills motioned to approve for payment, as listed on the Treasurers Report, Requisitions

#439 through #445 from the Bond Construction Fund in the total amount of \$39,360.59; Tapping Fee Fund Requisitions #1976 to #1981 in the total amount of \$14,726.41; and Developers Invoices (2) in the total amount of \$1,559.10. Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.

8. Engineers Report dated March 27, 2020 was presented by Josh Fox from HRG (See report for details).
 - a) Tina Smith motioned to approve purchase from Emergency Systems Service: a diesel powered emergency generator with automatic transfer switch, a Trystar Rotary Docking Station and load testing for the Trinity Drive Pump Station at the COSTARS quoted cost of \$44,538.00. Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.
 - b) After further review with Sewer staff and incorporating their improvements, the proposed COSTARS quote for the new Control Panel for the Trinity Pump Station increased to \$40,673.00. Phil Corvo motioned to approve purchase from Optimum Controls Corporation: a Pump Control Panel, level instrumentation and start-up assistance for the Trinity Drive Pump Station Replacement Project at the revised COSTARS quoted cost of \$40,673.00. Seconded by Shaun Walsh. Approved 5-0
 - c) Phil Corvo motioned to Authorize HRG to issue the Notice of Intent to Award Contract IP-1 to Doli Construction Corporation in the amount of \$317,248.00. Seconded by Walt Wills. Approved 5-0.
 - d) Phil Corvo motioned to Authorize HRG to issue the Notice of Intent to Award Contract IP-2 to North American Pipeline Services LLC in the amount of \$736,679.32. Seconded by Tina Smith. Approved 5-0.
 - e) Tina Smith motioned to Authorize HRG to advertise the Trinity Drive Pump Station Replacement Project for public bids. Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.

Phil Meyer (East Goshen) asked about the status of the Westtown Way Pump Station Project design and the planned assessment of alternatives to reduce the capital cost of the project. Josh Fox indicated the work had slipped a week or two but that a recommended approach/revised cost would be available for the May meeting.

9. Developers Activity Report, dated March 27, 2020 was described by Josh Fox (See report).
 - a) Carroll Engineering, the Township Engineer, had provided a written recommendation to the WGSa to reduce the financial security of the developer for the Woodlands at Greystone, based on their review of the detailed spreadsheet, the inspections that have been performed and their knowledge of the Sanitary Sewer work status. Tina Smith motioned to approve a reduction in the financial security for Woodlands at Greystone in the amount of \$1,191,691.95. Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.
10. The Authority members discussed the need to request waivers from the PA Governor's shutdown order for non-essential businesses for i) the WWTP Phase 2 Project and ii) the Priority A Interceptor Rehabilitation Project. Wastewater treatment is considered a 'life sustaining' business activity. After member discussion, it was agreed to only **seek a waiver for the Priority A Interceptor Rehabilitation Project**. The very poor condition of the Priority A large lines and manholes makes for a high risk of failures that could result in public health issues, environmental impact, service interruptions and expensive emergency repairs. Therefore, this project work should be progressed now as the priority it was intended.
Tina Smith motioned for approval to seek a waiver request for the scope of work in Contract IP-1 and Contract IP-2. Seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0.
ACTION: Ted Murphy to provide a waiver request letter, and with Ross Unruh, Josh Fox & Staff to ensure a waiver is pursued by Doli Construction Corporation and North American Pipeline Services to perform the project work.

11. Any Other Business
None

Shaun Walsh motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 PM, seconded by Phil Corvo. Approved 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Shaun Walsh,
Secretary